

Wt-90  
Wetipquin Methodist Episcopal Church  
Wetipquin  
private

1825-1827

The Wetipquin Methodist Episcopal church, sometimes referred to during the nineteenth century as "Mezick's Church or Meeting House" is reported to have been erected between 1825 and 1827. The land on which the building was assembled was donated to the Methodist congregation by the Mezick family who had occupied land in the vicinity since the late eighteenth century. The single-story, frame building has been remodeled twice since initial construction, first around 1877 and secondly, in 1901. As a result, the church represents a rare survival of an early meeting house type structure, and at the same time, the frame building is noteworthy for the mixture of architectural features from three distinct periods. The twelve-over-twelve sash windows and the Greek Revival entrance may be survivals from the original building, while the walls and roof were reworked around the turn of the twentieth century with stylish fishscale shingles, spindle brackets, and exposed rafter feet. The interior is reflective of the late nineteenth century with tongue-and-groove beaded wainscoting, pressed metal walls, oak grained pews, and Victorian altar furniture.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WF-90

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic WETIPQUIN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH "MESICK CHURCH"

and/or common WETIPQUIN CHAPEL

## 2. Location

street & number North side of MD 478, west of MD 415    not for publicationcity, town Wetipquin   x   vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  x  </u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture
<u>  x  </u> building(s)	<u>  x  </u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  x  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial
	<u>  x  </u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military
			<u>  </u> museum
			<u>  </u> park
			<u>  </u> private residence
			<u>  x  </u> religious
			<u>  </u> scientific
			<u>  </u> transportation
			<u>  </u> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Quantico Methodist Episcopal Church

street &amp; number telephone no.:

city, town Quantico state and zip code MD 21856

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 859

street &amp; number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 682

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date    federal    state    county    local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Wetipquin Methodist Episcopal church stands on the north side of MD 478 (Wetipquin Road) and east of the intersection of MD 415 (Royal Oak Road) in the vicinity of the Wetipquin, Wicomico County, Maryland. The church faces south with the gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Originally built between 1825 and 1827, this single story, rectangular frame church has been remodeled at two different times, first around 1877 and again in 1901. The weatherboard frame structure is supported by a continuous stretcher bond brick foundation, and it is sheathed with a layer of asphalt shingles over wood shingles. Situated east of the church is a cemetery with several dozen nineteenth and twentieth-century markers, and a modern metal fence encloses the church yard.

The south, three-bay elevation is a symmetrical facade with a center entrance and flanking twelve-over-twelve sash windows. The double single-panel front doors and the cross-muntin transom are framed by Greek Revival pilasters and entablature. Three poured concrete steps lead to the front doors. The flanking windows are protected by louvered shutters, and a few shutter dogs impressed with a decorative shell motif survive as well. Covering the upper gable are patterned fishscale shingles, and the extended eaves are fitted with simple turned spindle brackets. The rafter feet are exposed and finished with a decorative end.

The east and west side elevations are largely alike with two twelve-over-twelve shuttered sash windows piercing each side. Rising through the well side is an interior brick stove stack.

The north gable end is marked by a single-story apse that is covered by a shed roof with exposed rafter feet. The sides of the apse are pierced by narrow four-pane windows. The other details remain consistent with the front of the church.

The church interior has been altered during the late nineteenth century as well. A combination of tongue-and-groove beaded board wainscoting and pressed metal sheeting covers the walls surfaces. The windows and the altar opening in north wall are framed by bulls-eye block surrounds. The altar is marked by turned baluster railing that surrounds a raised platform. Yellow-brown oak graining still covers the platform sides, and the altar is furnished with a Victorian style pulpit and chairs. The body of the sanctuary is filled with period pews that retain a contrasting finish of oak graining and dark walnut colored trim. The most recent alteration is the acoustical tile ceiling.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1825-27 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Wetipquin Methodist Episcopal church, reported to have been built between 1825 and 1827, is the earliest meeting house of the Methodist religion to survive on the lower Eastern Shore. The other early churches in Somerset County (Deal Island, S-44 and St. Peters, S-289) were rebuilt during the middle years of the nineteenth century. As a result the Wetipquin church represents a rare survival of the early meeting house type structures. Also noteworthy is the mixture of architectural features from three distinct periods. The twelve-over-tweleve sash windows and the Greek Revival entrance may be survivals from the original building, while the walls and roof were reworked around the turn of the twentieth century with stylish fishscale shingles, spindle brackets and exposed rafter feet. The interior is reflective largely of the late nineteenth century with tongue-and-groove beaded wainscoting, pressed metal walls, oak grained pews, and Victorian altar furniture. With its architectural significance to the lower Eastern Shore combined with its importance in Wicomico County Methodist history the Wetipquin Methodist Episcopal church is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.



75 52 00  
38 22' 00"

WI-90

FISHING BAY  
WMA

Dorman  
Ditch

Jerry's  
Drain

WICOMICO CO  
DORCHESTER CO

42470000N

Bozes  
Cr

Pound Marsh

WI-90  
Wetipquin Methodist Church  
(Wetipquin Chapel)  
WETIPQUIN QUAD

Long  
Point

RIVER

Light

Runaway  
Point

NANTICOKE

Flatty  
Creek  
The Canal

Hay Point

Gum Swamp

BM  
6.7

Collier  
Creek

Sandy Hill Beach

Community

Wetipquin

WETIPQUIN

County  
Boat Ramp

Wetipquin

4242

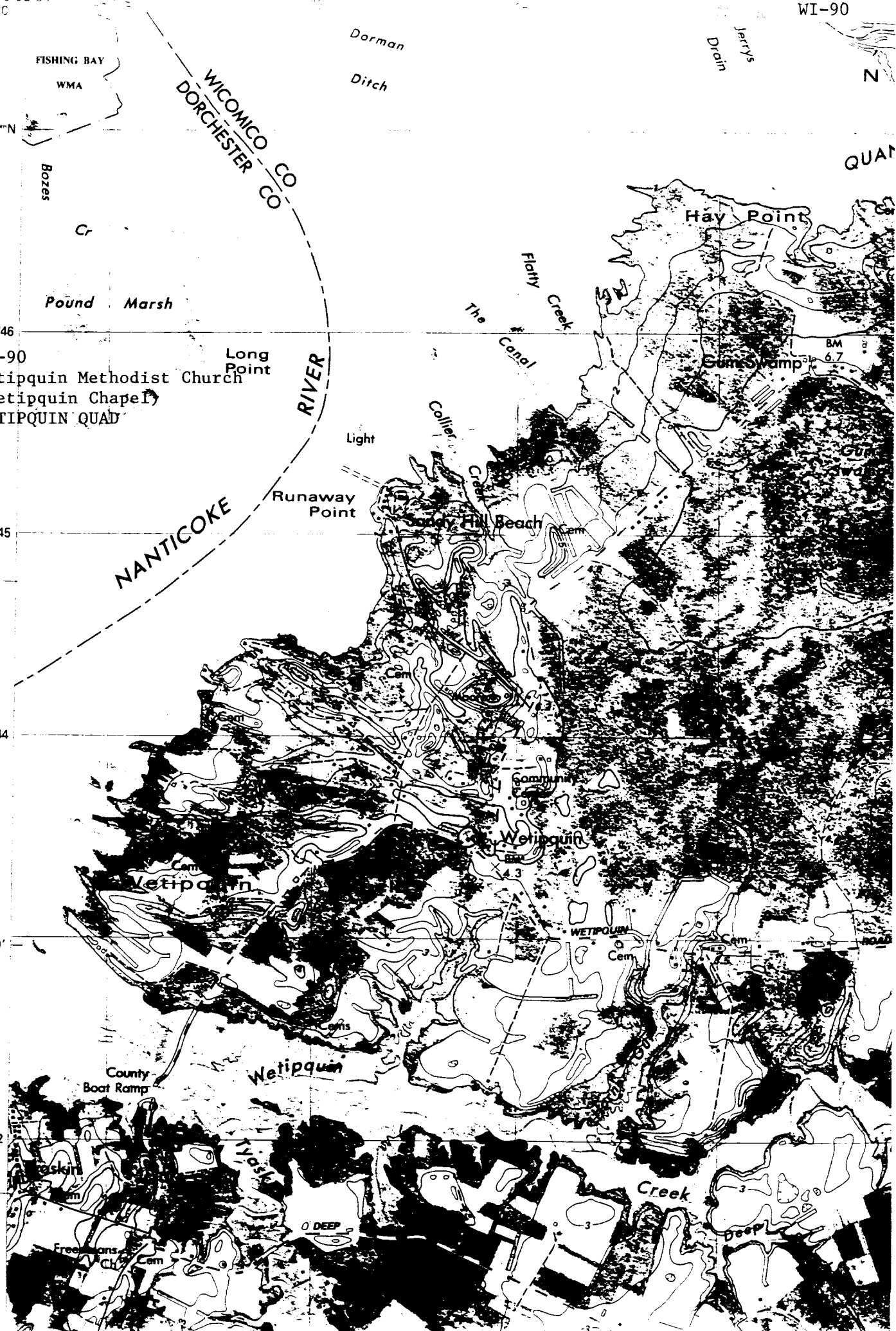
Wetipquin

Free  
CH

Creek

DEEP

DEEP





WF-90

WETIPQUIN METHODIST CHURCH

Wetipquin, Wicomico County, MD

Southeast elevation

5/88, Paul Touart, photographer





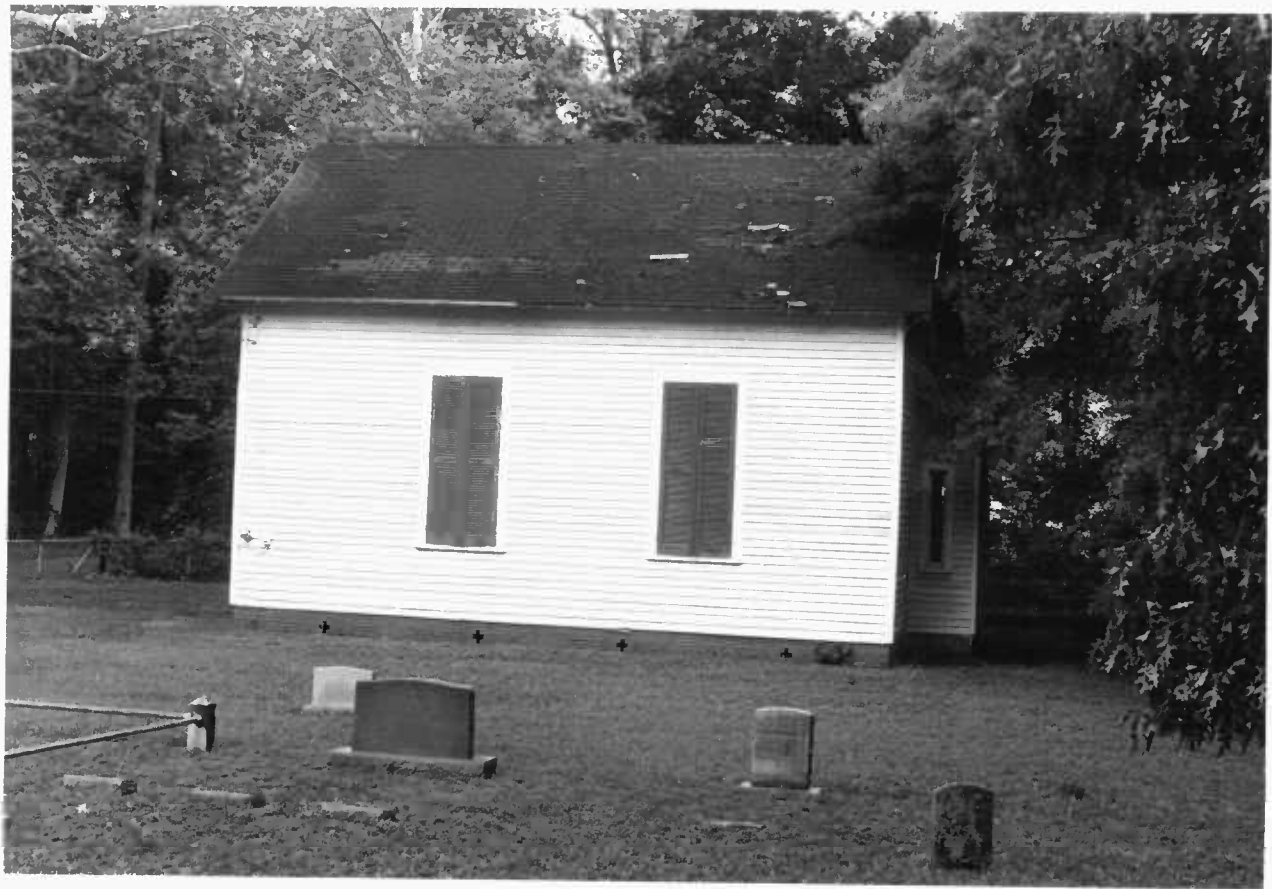
W#-90

WETIPQUIN METHODIST CHURCH

Wetipquin, Wicomico County, MD

South elevation

5/88, Paul Touart, photographer



WE-90

WETIPQUIN METHODIST CHURCH

Wetipquin, Wicomico County, MD

East wall

5/88, Paul Touart, photographer



W+I-90

WETIPQUIN METHODIST CHURCH

Wetipquin, Wicomico County, MD

South wall

5/88, Paul Touart, photographer